Symphony No. 3 in A minor, Opus 44 of Sergei Rachmaninoff
(Philadelphia Orchestra, Eugene Ormandy, conductor; WNCN)

Prescriptive information and the performing arts so-called and prescriptive information and the nonperforming arts: what is prescriptive for example with reference to John Bunyan's The Pilgrim's Progress From This World to That Which Is to Come and with reference to Henri Matisse's Le grand intérieur rouge literature and painting nonperforming arts. Prescriptive for the work of literature first of all the spectator must read the complete work to read an abridged version of The Pilgrim's Progress From This World to That Which Is to Come is not to read The Pilgrim's Progress From This World to That Which Is to Come similarly to contemplate only a portion of Le grand intérieur rouge and not to contemplate the complete work is not to contemplate Matisse's Le grand intérieur rouge. Fragments of finished works of art and unfinished works of art or works of art in progress pause to say that the complete work of literature or the complete oil painting must be contemplated in order for aesthetic appreciation to take place does not mean that the spectator can not appreciate aesthetically say the one extant panel of a hypothetical triptych two panels of which have been lost but it does mean that to contemplate the one remaining panel the fragment of a finished work is not the same as contemplating the complete triptych certainly it is not similarly to contemplate an unfinished work of art a work of art in progress is not to contemplate the finished work of art pause unfinished works of art works of art in progress are legion yes and to say that the complete work of art must be contemplated in order for aesthetic appreciation to take place does not mean that the spectator can not appreciate aesthetically say that part of an unfinished work which exists the Adagio for example of what would in all probability have become Symphony No. 10 had Mahler not died when he did but to contemplate the Adagio of what would in all probability have become Mahler's Symphony No. 10 is not to contemplate what has erroneously been named Mahler's Symphony No. 10 something which does not exist. Prescriptive information and the fragment of a finished work comma prescriptive information and the work of art in progress: synecdoche aesthetic synecdoche yes La Victoire de Samothrace is a fragment of a finished work yes Schubert's Symphony No. 8 in B minor is an unfinished work of art a work of art in progress yes what is prescriptive with reference to works of literature and to paintings.

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